



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
550 MAIN STREET  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

**EDDIE A. PEREZ**  
Mayor

**Telephone: (860) 543-8500**

**Fax: (860) 722-6606**

**Sarah Barr, Director of Communications**

**-----MEDIA RELEASE-----**

**HARTFORD MAYOR EDDIE PEREZ READY TO ROLL OUT  
RED CARPET FOR SKATE AMERICA**

(May 4, 2005)--- Mayor Eddie Perez says he feels like a “proud parent” now that Skate America has chosen Hartford to be the Host City for its international skating event in October 2006. The Mayor says, “Hartford is ready. We have the hotel space thanks to the Hilton-Hartford being renovated and the new Marriott will also be open.”

This Olympic-style figure skating event features four days of competition in ladies and men’s singles, pairs, and ice dancing. The eyes of the world will be on Hartford thanks to international media exposure.

The economic impact from this event is expected to be tremendous. Based upon the National Association of Sports Commission’s and Convention and Visitors Bureau’s formulas, about 250,000 people are expected to visit the Capitol City--- spending in excess of \$2 (M) million dollars.

“Skate America will help put New England’s Rising Star on the map. The red carpet will be rolled out and Downtown will show what Hartford Hospitality is all about,” says Mayor Perez.